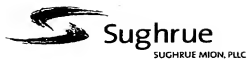


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December 16, 2004

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PCT/JP/03/07686
-filed June 17, 2003

Re: Application of Hiroshia SUWABE, Yasuhiko OTSUBO and Toshiaki KIMURA
CERAMIC HONEYCOMB STRUCTURE AND ITS PRODUCTION METHOD
AND COATING MATERIAL USED THEREFOR
Assignee: **HITACHI METALS, LTD.,**
Our Ref: Q76046

Dear Sir:

The following documents and fees are submitted herewith in connection with the above application for the purpose of entering the National stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 and in accordance with the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

- ☐ a copy of the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- ☒ an English translation of the International Application.
- ☒ 8 sheet(s) of drawings.
- ☐ an English translation of Article 19 claim amendments.
- ☐ an English translation of Article 34 amendments (annexes to the IPER).
- ☐ a copy of the executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form.
- ☐ a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) listing the ISR/IPER references.
- ☐ a copy of each reference cited in the ISR/IPER.
- ☒ a Preliminary Amendment.
- ☒ **it is expressly requested that the national stage of processing be commenced immediately in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 371(f)**

A copy of the a Declaration and Power of Attorney, a copy of the Assignment, PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) ISR/IPER references, and a copy of each reference cited in the ISR/IPER will be submitted at a later date.

It is assumed that copies of the International Application, the International Search Report and cited references, the International Preliminary Examination Report, and any Articles 19 and 34 amendments as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.



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The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>27</u>	-	20	=	<u>7</u>	x	\$50.00	=	<u>\$350.00</u>
Independent claims	<u>6</u>	-	3	=	<u>3</u>	x	\$200.00	=	<u>\$600.00</u>
Base Fee									<u>\$1000.00</u>

TOTAL FEE\$1950.00

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$1950.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2002-175372	June 17, 2002
Japan	2002-175374	June 17, 2002
Japan	2002-262088	September 6, 2002
Japan	2002-326852	November 11, 2002
Japan	2002-355022	December 6, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter D. Olexy'.

Peter D. Olexy
Registration No. 24,513

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 16, 2004